OLR Bill Analysis sHB 5538

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CARE CENTERS.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner, by January 1, 2014, to establish a pilot program in five school districts for school-based health centers. The DPH commissioner must consult with the education commissioner and select the five participating school districts by July 1, 2013 (presumably, districts with existing school-based health centers).

Under the bill, the pilot program may include (1) extended operating hours, (2) service provision to students outside the school district, (3) provision of behavioral health and other health care services other than those typically provided by school-based health centers, (4) community outreach related to service provision, and (5) private insurance reimbursements.

The DPH commissioner must annually evaluate the program, starting no later than July 15, 2014, until it ends. She must report her findings and recommendations to the Appropriation, Children, Education, and Public Health Committees. The program terminates no later than January 1, 2017.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 18 Nay 9 (04/01/2013)